## **SENATE BILL 1235**

## By Gilmore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 12, Chapter 4, Part 1, relative to state contracts with businesses owned by African Americans.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 12, Chapter 4, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

- (a) The Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations (TACIR) shall conduct a study on disparities in the issuance or award of state contracts to businesses, companies, and firms owned and operated by African Americans. TACIR shall include in the study recommendations regarding the manner in which to reduce such disparities.
- (b) The study should strive to provide information on the impact of such disparities on the African-American business community, and the manner in which other states and jurisdictions of the United States have addressed such disparities.
- (c) All appropriate state departments and agencies shall provide assistance to TACIR upon request in connection with the study required under subsection (a).
- (d) On or before January 31, 2022, TACIR shall report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the governor, members of the state and local government committee of the senate, and members of the state government committee of the house of representatives.
- SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.